additional dependent claims. These amendments introduce no new matter.

Election

Applicants elect Group I.

Claim Construction

All the claims expressly require the step of correlating the presence of the TAJ gene or gene product with the presence of or predisposition to an ectodermal disorder. Hence, all the claims are expressly limited to methods wherein the detected TAJ gene or gene product correlates with an ectodermal disorder. The claims do not encompass detecting a normal TAJ gene or gene product which detection does not correlate with an ectodermal disorder.

Applicants petition for any necessary extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayments associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 19-0750 (order no. UTSD:0680).

Respectfully submitted,

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LAW GROUP

Richard Aron Osman, Ph.D., Reg. No. 36,627 Tel: (949) 218-1757; Fax: (949) 218-1767

"To Help Our Customers Get Patents"
Mission Statement, USPTO External Customer Services Guide